GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1349
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2001
PEOPLE`S WAR GROUP ACTIVITIES
NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware that People`s War Group has formed a new set up as People`s Guerrilla Army (PGA) in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard, State-wise;

(c) whether the PGA has been collecting huge amount and also sophisticated weapons etc., illegally;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have failed to check the activities of PGA in the country; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a)&(b): There are reports to indicate that the People`s War Group (PWG) has set up a People`s Guerilla Army (PGA) in Andhra Pradesh and is making efforts to militarise its cadres in other affected States.

(c): The CPML-PW is known to have been collecting money through extortion from various sources as well as to possess sophisticated weapons, some of which may have been passed on to PGA.

(d)&(e): `Public Order` and `Police` being State subjects, it is for the concerned State Governments to devise various methods and take concrete steps to curb left wing extremist activities in the States. However, keeping in view the overall dimensions of left wing extremist activities in some States, a high level Coordination Centre, headed by the Union Home Secretary with Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police of the seriously affected States, as its members, regularly reviews and coordinates steps taken by the States to check left extremist activities, monitors the plan of action in respect of each State and makes recommendations both on development and security aspects of the problem.

Several important decisions such as providing financial support from the Centre for combating left wing extremist activities, preparation of plans for development of affected areas to tackle the problem in a holistic manner, sharing of intelligence inputs, and providing assistance of para military forces on need basis etc. have been taken by the Centre and effectively followed-up.

As a result of the combined efforts by the Central Government and the State Governments in combating left wing extremism, there has been a decline in left wing extremist violence in Andhra Pradesh during 2000 as compared to 1999, as well as during the current year (upto June 30) as compared to the corresponding period in 2000.